

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 OMB-01 DRC-01 /121 W
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R 151245Z MAR 74
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4615
SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1426

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/80
TAGS: MARR, US, NATO
SUBJ: USE OF CIVIL AIRCRAFT TO IMPROVE AIRLIFT CAPABILITIES
OF THE ALLIANCE--NATO CRAF

1. MISSION BELIEVES WE SHOULD PLAY ACTIVE ROLE TO CONVINCE ALLIES THEY SHOULD BEAR PART OF THE BURDEN IN PROVIDING AIRLIFT FOR DEPLOYMENT OF U.S. FORCES TO EUROPE. I PROPOSE WE MOVE SOON TO ENSURE DPC FOLLOW-UP TO SECDEF'S REMARKS AT LAST MINISTERIAL CONCERNING USE OF CIVIL AVIATION IN SUPPORT OF MILITARY OPERATIONS (PARA 14(E), USNATO 6011, DEC. 8, 1973 EXDIS). ALLIES ARE LIKELY TO REACT POSTIVELY ONLY IF WE PRESS THEM AND ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE BRIEFING ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. AS OPENING GAMBIT, I PROPOSE TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON NEED FOR NATO CIVIL RESERVE AIR FLEET (CRAF) BY SENDING A LETTER TO THE SYG AND MY COUNCILCOLLEAGUES, DRAWING ON THAT PORTION OF SECDEF'S REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON THE FY 75 DEFENSE BUDGET OF MARCH 4, 1974, DEALING WITH MOBILITY FORCES, (PAGES 156-157, AND PAGE 163). I WOULD FOLLOW THIS UP BY SUGGESTING AT PERMREPS LUNCH THE POSSIBILITY OF A BRIEFING BY US DOD REPS TO THE DPC AND MILITARY COMMITTEE DESIGNED TO SET IN MOTION NATO STUDIES ON HOW CIVIL AIRCRAFT OF OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES (INCLUDING OUR OWN) COULD BE EMPLOYED TO ENHANCE CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE/CONVENTIONAL
CONFIDENTIAL

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DETERRENT BY MODERNIZING AND IMPROVING REINFORCEMENT OF EUROPE. THE TARGET WOULD BE FORE PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE NATO STUDIES FOR THE JUNE MINISTERIAL, AT WHICH TIME GUIDELINES COULD BE AGREED UPON TO HAVE A PROGRAM FOR APPROVAL BY ALLIED DEFENSE MINISTERS AT THE

DECEMBER 1974 DPC MINISTERIAL.

3. REQUEST COMMENTS ON THIS PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION. RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO01426
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS, 12/31/80
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740381/abbrytuh.tel
Line Count: 59
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <30-Aug-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USE OF CIVIL AIRCRAFT TO IMPROVE AIRLIFT CAPABILITIES OF THE ALLIANCE--NATO CRAF
TAGS: MARR, US, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005